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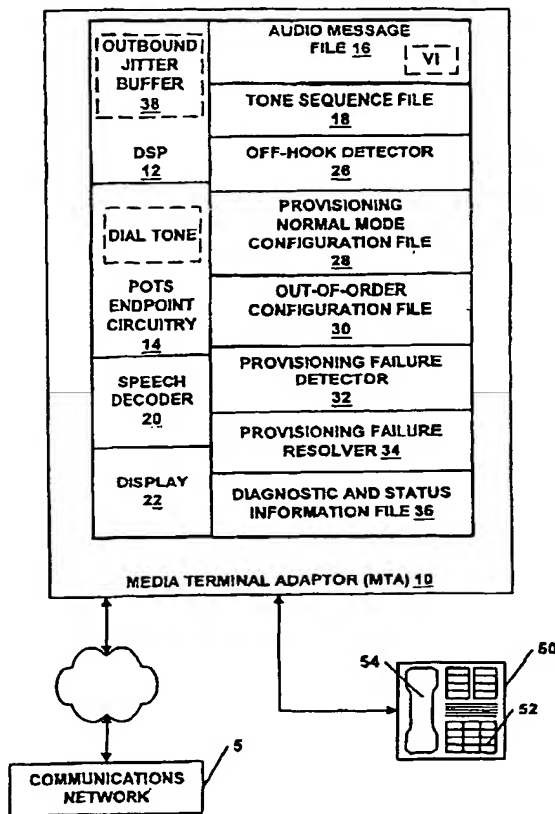
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(54) Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING AND PLAYING DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGES INDICATIVE OF MTA PROVISIONING STATUS**



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus, which generates and plays diagnostic messages indicative of a media terminal adaptor (MTA) provisioning status. The MTA detects errors in its provisioning status or an out-of-service state. Thus, when a telephone connected to the MTA is taken off-hook and the MTA that is not provisioned, improperly provisioned, or placed in an out-of-service state by the service provider, the MTA will generate then an appropriate diagnostic audio voice message or tone sequence to the telephone instructing the listener on how to proceed in order to resolve the problem.



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